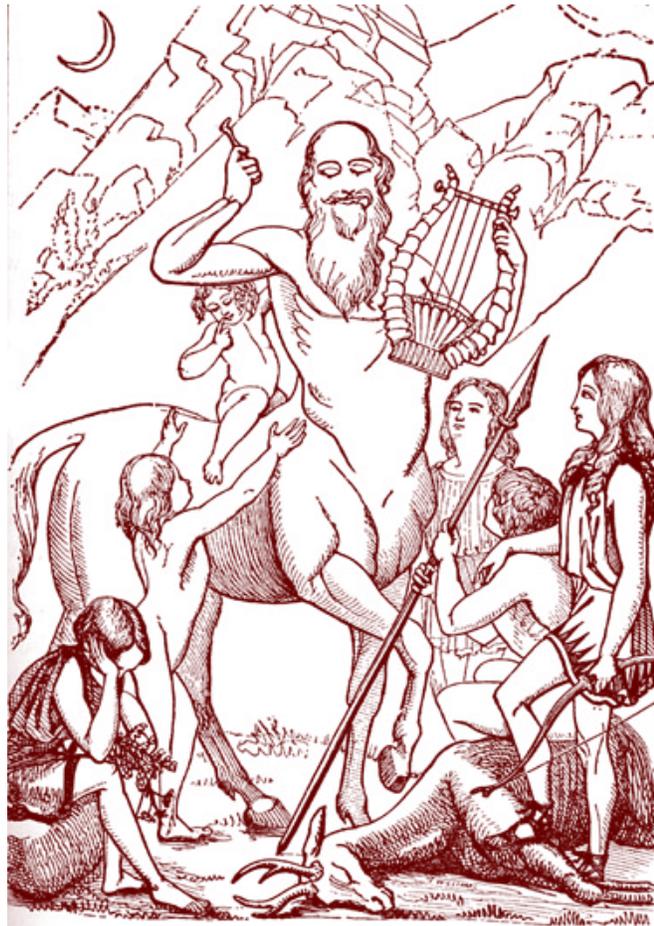


## *Sagittarius and the Ninth House*

**S**AGITTARIUS IS THE ninth sign and it embodies what we might call the ninth house influences. Sagittarius is depicted as an archer, a centaur, and when man reaches the stage pictured in this symbol, he may be conceived of as coming out of the lower nature and aiming his bow of aspiration at the stars. Therefore, Sagittarius is the sign of the idealist, the sign of our noblest impulses. But as the Sagittarian aims so high, it is no wonder that he falls short of the ideal which he sets for himself. Nevertheless, in spite of failure he should realize that there is no failure except in ceasing to aspire, and he should endeavor to do better.

Like the other common signs, Sagittarius is dual. Gemini, the Twins, represents two; Virgo has the mother and the babe; the sign of the fishes, Pisces, has two figures; and Sagittarius has both man and animal. The chief characteristic of these signs is flexibility, of which Sagittarius has less than any of the others, for it is a fiery sign. It is endued with a certain unquenchable ardor. Aided by good aspects the Sagittarian shows considerable zeal for the uplift of humanity, but when afflicted, the other side of the picture is seen. Then he is apt to indulge the lower nature, the animal side, to an almost unbelievable degree. This is particularly true, strange as it may seem, if the affliction comes from Venus.

As Sagittarius is the ninth sign, the sign of the dreamer and the idealist, so the ninth house is the house of dreams and idealism according to the planets which are posited in it. The moon in conjunction with Neptune in the ninth house is the par-



*Chiron*

*The wisest of all the centaurs, instructed by Apollo and Artemis, Chiron was renowned for his skill in hunting, medicine, music, and the art of prophecy. His pupils included Jason, Hercules, Achilles, and Aesculapius, the latter being a semi-legendary physician whose most famous healing oracle was at Epidaurus. Wounded by Hydra, Chiron was placed by Zeus among the stars as the constellation Sagittarius.*

ticular signature of a fruitful and visionary imagination. The horse, which forms part of Sagittarius, is a beast of travel, and the ninth house is also the house of travel. The configuration of Neptune conjunct Moon will make a person very restless, not only in mind but in body, always imagining things are better somewhere else, always searching for something which is never found. The Sagittarian must learn to realize his ideals within instead of seeking them without. We are in this school of

experience for the purpose of overcoming, and it is not by running from one place to another that we gain experience. By staying in one place, by doing our very best to attain our ideals where we are, we make our dreams come true.

Saturn in the ninth house, particularly if in Sagittarius and well aspected, is in about the best possible position, for Saturn lends depth and penetration to the mind, reduces the roving tendency, and helps one most wonderfully. There can be no more favorable augur for the attainment of the higher life, even if Sagittarius is not in the ninth house. The ideal configuration for a philanthropist or a high spiritual teacher would be Saturn in the ninth house in Sagittarius with a trine from Jupiter, the planet of idealism, in Leo. That would overcome all the lower tendencies of Sagittarius and give a wonderful zest and persistence to the will of the man thus fortunately endowed. It would give him the insight to use his means to the very best advantage. He would never be led by false sentimentality, but would have the necessary foresight to know where his charities would be best placed. He would also have the necessary fortitude of mind to deny application from the unworthy, for we should always realize that not infrequently we do people a great deal of harm by giving alms.

Jupiter in the ninth house makes the mind cheerful and optimistic; it inclines a person to benevolence if well aspected. On the contrary, if there happens to be a square to Saturn, that will inhibit all the good qualities and render the evil qualities more apparent, for Saturn obstructs, and will give a gloomier view of life than any other planet. Then we may have a person who will be a scoffer at religion, and who will use his oratorical powers (for such the Jupiterian has) for the purpose of turning people against religion. Ingersoll was a good example of the malefic influence of Saturn. Although he was by nature a kindly and well meaning man, the very thought of religion turned him into a sarcastic destructionist for the time being.

The sun in Sagittarius and in the ninth house makes the mind lively and active, and gives a brightness and a sunny temperament which are uplifting to those with whom the person comes in

contact. This is particularly the case if Mercury, which is usually very close to the sun, goes before the Heavenly Light. Such persons are versatile in the extreme and readily obtain a superficial knowledge of everything. They seem to grasp a point the moment it is presented.

Mars in Sagittarius or in the ninth house is really the most inflammatory of all the planets in these positions. There is perhaps no place where he may do as much harm as in this house, particularly, of course, if he has an evil aspect, for the dynamic energy of Mars seeks expression in whatever sphere he is located. He is impulsive, and as Sagittarius is also fiery, they agree in this aspect of their nature. Mars in Sagittarius, therefore, adds fire to fire, and should there be a bad aspect, this energy may be used in a manner very destructive. From such a configuration we might expect a labor agitator, an anarchist—anyone who would seek to right a wrong by committing violence, anyone who would avenge fancied or real wrongs to himself or his fellow creatures. Mars square Mercury from Sagittarius or the ninth house would be particularly precarious in this respect. The man would be prone to the improper use of force or threats, although, of course, we must always remember that one aspect like this may be offset by another aspect which modifies it.

Venus in Sagittarius or the ninth house would render a person devotional in nature, if well aspected. The aspects of Jupiter in Sagittarius or the ninth house would make one inclined to follow along philosophical and intellectual lines rather than along the purely devotional. In this respect Venus differs, for the person with Venus there might have very little intellect as that is conceived of today, but would have that lovely devotional phase of character which we find in the very noblest of souls. On the other hand, if Venus were in Sagittarius or the ninth house and square to Mars, then we should have a person who would be anything but moral, provided, of course, that there were no redeeming aspects to offset this.

Uranus or Neptune in Sagittarius or the ninth house renders the mind what is usually called progressive and unique. A person with either of these positions, if it is well aspected, will take up some

work along the line of the Mysteries. He will probably study astrology, psychology, and kindred subjects.

In accordance with the symbology of the sign, Sagittarians are very fond of animals, particularly horses and dogs, and a good aspect of Jupiter in Sagittarius to Mars will usually make a horse racing man or one fond of following sports, games of chance, or gambling of any nature.

Thus from varied configurations with the different planets in Sagittarius or the ninth house, we obtain all the varied shades of mind imaginable. In this matter the aspects and configurations of planets in Gemini, which governs what is called the lower mind, have a great significance. But as planets in the ninth house are elevated, they are naturally much more powerful in this respect than the planets under the earth in the third house. The aspirations of the soul, the ideals which make man man, which are bringing him onward on the path to the superhuman stage, are found in this house and sign.

The moon in Sagittarius, no matter whether that sign is in the ninth house or not, has the same effect as if it were there, for it brings a restlessness into the nature which always causes a person to wander. He often becomes what we may call a globe trotter. Saturn, on the other hand, prevents and delays traveling, for it is his nature to obstruct, no matter where in the figure he is placed. Jupiter and Venus have the effect of making travel pleasant when placed in Sagittarius or the ninth house. Mars, conversely, renders one liable to all sorts of inconveniences when traveling, and may cause accidents which result in wounds. Saturn evilly configured causes bruises. Sagittarius rules the thighs, and therefore, naturally, adverse configuration in this sign may cause accidents to the thighs. It is a notable fact that Sagittarians are very liable to broken bones under circumstances where people with other signs seldom meet injury.

In the eighth degree of Sagittarius is the fixed star Antares, which has a malefic effect upon the sight. Two other nebulous spots in the zodiac have a similar influence. One is the Ascelli in Leo 6, the other the Pleiades in Taurus 29. The sun or moon in one of these places and adversely configured

## Behavior of Builders

*I am doing a great work, so that I cannot  
come down.—Nehemiah 6:3*

To see a need and take it as your own,  
To lose yourself in some heroic task,  
Is placing love upon the motive throne,  
By giving help before the needy ask.  
To turn deaf ears on ridicule and jest  
Be unafraid at threats of violence,  
Gives victory to efforts of the best,  
Assures the aid of righteous Providence.  
To stay aloft at tasks of service great,  
And not come down to parley with the crowd,  
To be above self-seeking forms of hate,  
Will line with silver every threat'ning cloud.  
Devotion of a builder building high,  
Will cause the things of low estate to die.

—Henry C. Spear

with one of the malefics—Saturn, Mars, Uranus, or Neptune—gives trouble with the eyes according to the nature of the aspect. Vice versa, if Saturn, Mars, Uranus or Neptune is in one of the nebulous spots adversely configured with the sun or moon, a similar trouble will be experienced. Should a planet like one of the last named be in retrograde motion, the aspect is much worse, for when the planet has ceased to retrograde and goes direct in the zodiac again, it will pass over the nebulous spot which it is close to a second time, and thereby cause added damage. There may be, however, a compensating side to this aspect, for it sometimes happens that while a malefic configuration with one of these nebulous spots (Antares is the worst) deprives a person of his sight, a benevolent configuration develops in him a second sight which will compensate for the loss to a degree which only those who have that sight can appreciate.

The keyword of Sagittarius may be conceived of as ASPIRATION. □

—Max Heindel